

lity. The essential nature of these was discussed and also the methods of differentiating them from one another by the study of the arterial and venous pulse. The bearing of the different types of arrhythmia on prognosis was referred to, and some indications were pointed out for the employment of rest, digitalis, iodides, belladonna and suprarenal extract.

J. B. McCONNELL, M.D. Very few of us can discuss this most instructive paper as it should be discussed. I think it is among the most interesting to which it has been my privilege to listen, more especially, as at the recent Toronto meeting of the British Medical Association, this subject was taken up and thrashed out in the section of Physiology and Medicine by Mackenzie, Aschoff, Broadbent, and others, not only from a physiological standpoint, but from the points of view of practical interest to the clinician. Aschoff gave a most interesting paper on the histology of the band which runs from the auricle to the ventricle and showed that modified muscular tissue is capable of conducting nerve impulses from the auricle to the ventricle. The practical part of the subject is seen in the fact that there are some kinds of arrhythmia and defective heart action which are not benefited by digitalis, and it is only (by distinguishing the variety present) by the new methods proposed that we can tell which may be benefited and which not, and when heart block is present of specific or toxic causes of degeneration in these fibres, the etiological factor must be recognized in order to get successful results in the treatment of the cases.

F. F. FINLEY, M.D. Lack of discussion is not lack of interest, and we feel that we are under a debt of gratitude to Dr. Morrow for bringing this subject before us in such a very clear fashion and it will stimulate us to higher interest in our cardiac cases.

At the close of the meeting, Dr. J. Alex Hutchison moved, seconded by Dr. F. R. England, that the President, Dr. Finley, and a committee of the older members of the Society should meet for the purpose of drawing up a letter of condolence to the family of the late Dr. Stewart.

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A French authority says that there are 228,234 medical men in the world. Of these there are in Europe 162,333, distributed as follows: In England, 34,967; in Germany, 22,518; in Russia, 21,489; in France, 20,348, and in Italy, 18,245. In England the proportion of doctors is 78 to 100,000 of the population; in France it is 51, and in Turkey, 18; In Brussels it is 241; in Madrid, 209; in Budapest, 198; in Christiana, 181; in Vienna, 140; in Berlin, 132; in London, 128; in Athens, 123, and in Paris, 111.